

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS**

200 W. Washington, Suite 301
Indianapolis, IN 46204
(317) 233-0696
<http://www.in.gov/legislative>

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6956

BILL NUMBER: HB 1259

NOTE PREPARED: Mar 12, 2008

BILL AMENDED: Feb 19, 2008

SUBJECT: Child Safety and CHINS.

FIRST AUTHOR: Rep. VanDenburgh

FIRST SPONSOR: Sen. Becker

BILL STATUS: Enrolled

FUNDS AFFECTED: X **GENERAL**
DEDICATED
FEDERAL

IMPACT: State & Local

Summary of Legislation: This bill requires certain above ground swimming pools to have an access ladder or steps that may be: (1) secured and locked; or (2) removed.

The bill also requires the Department of Child Services to provide notice to certain individuals seven days before a periodic case review for a child in need of services. (Current law requires the department to send notice ten days before the periodic case review.)

Effective Date: Upon passage; July 1, 2008.

Explanation of State Expenditures: This bill will require DCS to provide notice to a child's foster parent(s) or long-term foster parent(s) within 7 days of a periodic case review. DCS is required to provide proof of notification at the periodic case review. DCS reports that this provision is easy to implement and would not require additional state expenditures.

(Revised) The bill requires above-ground swimming pools sold for installation after December 31, 2008, to ensure the main mode of entry to the pool (specifically ladder or steps) can either be removed or secured and locked.

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures: The legislation also removes a provision that requires the court to continue a periodic case review if DCS fails to provide proof that the foster parent(s) were notified of the hearing. Additionally, the legislation removes a provision that states that a court is not required to continue if a child's foster parent(s) appear at the review. The impact on family courts with the removal of these

provisions will depend on judicial discretion of the proceedings and if DCS can verify notification of foster parent(s). Any court delays associated with the removal of these provisions is likely to be small.

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: Department of Child Services.

Local Agencies Affected: Local courts of jurisdiction.

Information Sources: Ann Houseworth, DCS.

Fiscal Analyst: Bill Brumbach, 232-9559.